

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 BELIZE 00684 130414Z  
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00  
INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01 ICA-11 SP-02 /071 W  
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R 112340Z JUL 78  
FM AMCONSUL BELIZE  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6521  
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

C O N F I D E N T I A L BELIZE 684

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PBOR, BH, UK, GT, UK  
SUBJECT: GOVERNOR MCENTEE DEPARTS ON LEAVE

1. GOV. ASKED ME TO COME BY FOR INFORMAL CHAT AND ROUNDUP PRIOR TO HIS LEAVE. HE HAS BEEN CALLED TO PALACE AND WILL RECEIVE A "GONG" FOR HIS EFFORTS HERE WHICH HE DESERVES\*
2. FOLLOWING WERE DISCUSSED, A) CONTINUING PUP/UDP EFFORTS TO DEPOLITICIZE UK/GUATEMALA TALKS. GOV. SAID EFFORTS TO TAKE TALKS OUT OF POLITICAL SPHERE AND KEEP BOTH PUP AND UDP INFORMED WERE MOVING AHEAD BUT WITH AGONIZING SLOWNESS. HE HAD HAD FIRST ROUND OF TALKS WITH BOTH PARTIES PRESENT AND IT WAS HEAVY WORK. PRICE AND LINDO KEPT SNIPING AT EACH OTHER AS DID ROGERS AND SEN. KEN TILLET. HE HOPES HOWEVER SOME PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE. B) HE IS GENUINELY REASSURED BY LUCAS SPEECH BUT EQUALLY WORCIED BY SPLIT BETWEEN VILLEGAN AND VALDEZ. I WAS UNAWARE OF SERIOUSNESS OF SPLIT WHICH MCENTEE SAYS HAS GOTTEN IN PRESS. CARRIERS ARE EXPECTED TO LEAVE 'SOON'. C) GUATEMALA PATROL BOAT FIASCO. GOV. WAS VERY PLEASED BY SENSIBLE AND LOW KEY ATTITUDE TAKEN BY GOG ALONG WITH THEIR OBVIOUS DESIRE COOPERATE. (ED NOTE: WHAT ALTERNATIVES DID THEY HAVE?) HE

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ADDED THAT SITUATION ON REEF IS STILL MURKY. HIS LATEST INFORMATION IS THAT HONDURAN TUG HIRED BY GUATEMALANS TO ASSIST HAS GOTTEN INSIDE REEF AND NOW CAN'T GET OUT; BUT HE HAS NO CONFIRMATION. D) DOMESTIC SITUATION: MCENTEE SAYS QUITE FLATLY "PRICE IS NO LONGER IN CHARGE HERE." I ASKED WHO WAS AND HE REPLIED IT DEPENDED ON WHAT. HE STATES A CABAL OF SYLVESTRE, PERDOMO, HARRY COURTNEY AND FREDDIE

HUNTER HAVE COME TOGETHER, ALIGNED AGAINST ASSAD SHOMAN.  
ROGERS WILL BE THE SWING VOTE AND BY IMPLICATION IS A VERY  
POWERFUL MAN INDEED IN CABINET. DEP. PREMIER HAS BEEN  
MOST CORDIAL, EVEN OLEAGINOUS WITH ME RECENTLY; HE IS A CRAFTY  
ONE. MCENTEE THINKS ROGERS IS THE OWNER OF SLANDEROUS SCANDAL  
SHEET THE SENTINEL-NEWLY APPEARED RAG UPON WHICH WE HAVE NOT  
COMMENTED EXCEPT IN OFFICIAL-INFORMAL TO ARA/CEN. E) HE  
ALSO CONFIRMED RUMORS WE HAVE HAD THAT A VENEZUALAN  
DELEGATION IS IN TOWN FOR TRADE TALKS. GOV. AND I BOTH AGREE  
GROUP WILL BE MASSAGED BY PRICE OVER ISSUE OF MULTI-LATERAL  
SECURITY FORCE WHICH IS, IN SPITE OF SOME TALK, NOT YET  
DEAD. PRICE DESPERATELY WANTS VENEZUALANS TO COME ON BOARD;  
THEY, NEXT TO CANADA ARE ONLY IMPORTANT PEOPLE TO HAVE BEEN  
ASKED AND CANADIANS HAVE ALREADY SAID NO. GOV. WAS IN GOOD  
SPIRITS AND LOOKING FORWARD TO HIS LEAVE. CERTAIN  
ARRANGEMENTS WE HAVE MADE IN NARCOTICS AREA WILL CONTINUE  
THROUGH GOOD OFFICES OF HIS #2, BRIAN BERRY. MCENTEE FEELS  
ANY PROGRESS ON PUP/UDP SIDE TO REINFORCE MEMORANDUM OF  
UNDERSTANDING WILL BE IMPORTANT AND WILL ALLOW HMG GREATER  
FLEXIBILITY WITH GOG. HE FELT THIS WAS MOST IMPORTANT ITEM  
OF THE DAY.

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## Message Attributes

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